

the redactor from P." So in these three verses which Driver gives to J he says that there occur three expressions which he regards as distinctive P phrases. In a passage described as belonging to J "in the main" the Redactor has put in three phrases which really are P phrases. Why would the Redactor do that? If he is going to take three verses and change three different expressions in them to fit with P why did he not change the whole thing throughout so that the documents could not be distinguished?

The argument from words to prove distinct style has to be used with very great caution if it is going to really be valid. But even using the critics' own argument the point is that they do not carry it through consistently because in almost every case there will be some such footnote as the following given by Brightman in connection with Exodus 4.29-31 : "Almost all critics agree that Aaron was probably unknown to the oldest J tradition. Aaron in a J context is superfluous, and R: . . . " (Sources of the Hexateuch, p. 82)

IV The Theory does not generally maintain individual writers but schools.

It is held that the P writers were a group of men who over a long period of time wrote and built up and enlarged their work. The same was alleged of the J writers and of the E writers. Critical books written forty years ago would say that you could divide J into J1, J2, J3; E into E1, E2, E3; P into P1, P2, P3 and so on. Of late there has been a swing away from such fragmentation. G. W. Anderson contends, "We cannot return to the hair-splitting analyses which were fashionable about half a century ago, but must be content sometimes to leave the lines of demarcation between the sources vaguely defined." (A Critical Introduction to the Old Testament, p. 55) . Still whereas we find critical scholars such as Speiser affirming concerning J that "It goes without saying that a work with such distinctive personal traits could stem only from an individual author." (Genesis, p.xxviii), Speiser still believes that "~~the~~ ~~as~~ ~~an~~ ~~individual~~ ~~author~~ ~~is~~ ~~that~~ ~~"P~~ ~~was~~ ~~not~~ ~~an~~ ~~individual~~, or even a group of like-minded contemporaries, but a school with